

In the Claims 8,17-20 / 1-5

Allard's
Claims
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The following presentation of Claims replaces all previous versions.

We claim:

1 8. (currently amended) A method of detecting lymphocytes expressing cell-surface gp120 in an aqueous sample containing viral infected cells displaying gp120, comprising:

a. combining to form a mixture:

i. an effective amount of a plurality of first monoclonal antibodies, each specific to a different epitope of gp120, comprising an anti-gp120 antibody, wherein the first each such monoclonal antibody is attached to one of one or more detectable labels,

ii. an effective amount of a one or more second antibody antibodies, each comprising an antibody specific for said one or more of said detectable labels, wherein each of said second antibodies is attached to a magnetic particle, and

iii. the sample;

b. incubating said mixture under conditions effective for (i) binding of said first monoclonal antibody antibodies to gp120 on said cells, and (ii) for binding of said second antibody antibodies to said detectable labels attached to said anti-gp120 monoclonal antibody antibodies, to form a complex, wherein each of said first monoclonal antibody antibodies is bound to said gp120 displayed on a viral infected cell;

c. separating said complex by applying a magnetic field to said mixture, whereby said complex is retained by said magnetic field, and

d. determining the presence of magnetically separated lymphocytes expressing cell-surface gp120.

2 17 (new). A method as in Claim 8, wherein step (d) comprises counting the number of cells attached to the one or more detectable labels.

3 18 (new). A method as in Claim 17, wherein counting the number of cells comprises detecting complexes that emit light at one or more predetermined wavelengths in response to incident radiation. 3

4 19 (new). A method as in Claim 18, wherein counting the number of cells comprises using flow cytometry. 3

5 20 (new). A method as in Claim 18, wherein counting the number of cells comprises using fluorescence microscopy.

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